## REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Upon entry of this Amendment, Claims 1-3, 8, 9, 13, 15, 17-19, 22 and 34-36 will be pending in the application. Claims 1, 13, 17, 22 and 34-36 have been amended. Claim 21 has been canceled by the present Amendment. Claims 4-7, 10-12, 14, 16 and 23-33 have been withdrawn by the Examiner as being drawn to non-elected subject matter.

Amended independent Claim 1 recites a pharmaceutical composition comprising a uric acid derivative in a daily dosage amount of from 100 to less than 1,000 mg. Amended independent Claim 13 recites a dosage form for oral administration comprising a uric acid derivative, said derivative being present in a daily dosage amount of from 100 to less than 1,000 mg and in an amount effective to raise uric acid levels. Claim 17, which depends from Claim 13, has been amended to recite a uric acid precursor range of from 500 to 1,000 mg. Amended independent Claim 22 recites a single oral daily dose comprising from 100 to less than 1,000 mg of a uric acid derivative effective to raise uric acid levels in a human. Claims 34-36 have been amended to recite a uric acid derivative amount of about 0.5 gram. Basis for the amended claim language is provided in the specification, for example, at page 6, lines 3-5, page 8, lines 12-14 and page 12, lines 25 and 26. Specifically, the minimum recited uric acid derivative amount of 100 mg is disclosed at page 6, lines 3-5 and page 8, lines 12-14. Uric acid precursor daily dosages within a range of 500 to 1,000 mg are described at page 12, lines 25 and 26. It is submitted that the present claims meet the requirements of 35 U.S.C. § 112.

In the December 19, 2003 Office Action, Claims 1-3, 13, 15, 17, 18, 20, 22 and 34-36 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as allegedly being unpatentable over Peeters et al. (WO 94/00132). Claims 1-3, 8, 9, 13, 15, 17-22 and 34-36 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as allegedly being unpatentable over Peeters et al. in view of Howard et al. (GB 2 280 110). According to the Office Action, Peeters et al. discloses the treatment of Alzheimer's disease with guanosine and precursors and/or derivatives thereof, including xanthosine, as well as guanine, inosine, xanthine, hypoxanthine, 5' inosinic acid, and mono-, di- and triphosphates of guanosine. The Office Action notes that Peeters et al. discloses that xanthosine should be administrated at dosages of from 20 mg/kg/day to 150 mg/kg/day. The

Office Action states that, assuming a 50 kg person, this dosage would result in an administration of compositions comprising 1 to 7.5 grams per day.

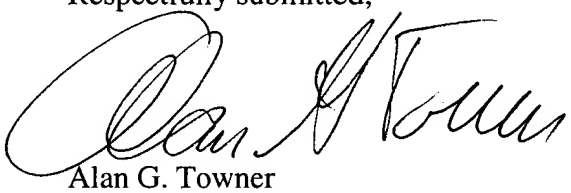
Applicants submit that amended independent Claims 1, 13 and 22 distinguish over the prior art of record. By reciting less than 1,000 mg of a uric acid derivative, the claims distinguish over the dosage range of 20 to 150 mg/kg/day disclosed by Peeters et al. Accordingly, Claims 1, 13 and 22, and the claims that depend therefrom, are patentable over the prior art of record.

Dependent Claims 34, 35 and 36, which depend from independent Claims 1, 13 and 22, respectively, recite about 0.5 gram of the uric acid derivative. This claimed amount further distinguishes over Peeters et al.

It is submitted that Claims 1-3, 8, 9, 13, 15, 17-19, 22 and 34-36 are patentable over the prior art of record. Accordingly, an early Notice of Allowance of this application is respectfully requested.

In the event that any outstanding matters remain in connection with this application, the Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned at (412) 263-4340 to discuss such matters.

Respectfully submitted,



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